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JUN 18 2007

Docket No. B18-124  
Serial No. 10/518,727Remarks

Claims 1-21 were pending in the subject application. By this Amendment, the applicants have amended claim 2 and have withdrawn claims 9-21 as being directed to non-elected subject matter. No new matter has been added by these amendments. Accordingly, claims 1-8 are pending in the subject application and before the examiner for consideration.

In response to the written restriction requirement dated April 18, 2007, the applicants hereby elect, with traverse, the Group I claims (claims 1-8) drawn to methods of detection and quantification of proteins comprising HPLC/Mass spectrometry wherein the methods also comprise protein chelate and linker group bound to solid support.

The applicants respectfully traverse this Restriction Requirement to the extent that it requires an election between enzymatic and chemical cleavage. Specifically, the applicants submit that Groups I and II should be combined and claims 1-8 examined in their entirety. As enzymatic cleavage works through a chemical reaction, "enzymatic" cleavage is really just a subset of chemical cleavage. Claim 2 has been amended to clarify that these two methods of cleavage are not mutually exclusive. To the extent that an election is needed between enzymatic and chemical cleavage, the applicants submit that it should be a species election. The applicants appreciate the Examiner's consideration of these remarks.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 CFR 1.16 or 1.17 as required by this paper to Deposit Account 19-0065.

The Applicants invite the Examiner to call the undersigned if clarification is needed on any aspect of this amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

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